



August 10, 2001

Dear Stakeholder:

At this time, ENERGY STAR does not cover top mount refrigerators under 12.5 cubic feet, bottom mount or side-by-side refrigerators under 18.5 cubic feet, single door refrigerators, or freezers. When the original specifications were developed, there were few high-efficiency products on the market or in development to warrant inclusion in the specification. Recently, industry and utility partners have expressed interest in promoting all of these products.

Based on this interest, DOE is considering expansion of the ENERGY STAR refrigerator specification to include all refrigerators and freezers that are automatic defrost, with volume of 6.5 cubic feet or higher to carry the ENERGY STAR logo. As proposed, all refrigerator or freezer products would have to exceed the federal standard for its size and configuration by at least 10 percent in order to qualify for the ENERGY STAR label. The specification would therefore exclude only compact refrigerators under 6.5 cubic feet.

If any manufacturers have comments or concerns about expansion of the specification, please contact Bill McNary at D&R International (301-588-9387 or bmcnary@drintl.com) or myself by August 31, 2001.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Noel".

William Noel, Manager
ENERGY STAR Program
Office of Building Technology, State
and Community Programs
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy